

UNCLASSIFIED

8/30/79
AX 061

Will the author identify himself?
New Subject

DECONTROL

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S288888888)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Extise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

☒ In Full DECONTROL

☐ In Part ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

☐ Classify as ☐ Declassify on Reason

Conversation with Rodolfo Marin Seravia on August 30, 1979

I met with Martin Sarvia at the Foreign Office yesterday to present a new list of detainees that we were interested in interviewing. During our meeting I asked Martin Seravia to give me his opinion of Libertad Vigilada and how it affects a detainee's ability to apply for option.

Martin Seravia stated that when it was decided that a detainee will be granted Libertad Vigilada a decree to such effect is issued (he showed me a decree). The decree also clearly states what geographical area the movements of the detainee will be limited to. A detainee is normally limited to movement within the geographical limits of the city of his residence before his arrest.

Once given Libertad Vigilada the detainee must report to the local police headquarters in his area at predetermined intervals. The first month or the first two months of his return to his home town the detainee normally reports to the police station every three days and signs the register. After the first two months, if the detainee has conducted himself in an acceptable manner, he is required to report and sign the register at two week intervals. Martin Seravia stated that once on Libertad Vigilada a detainee is free to travel in his assigned district and can work. However there are restrictions as to attending public gatherings and private meetings in his home.

Martin Seravia added that the Libertad Vigilada status is "normally" removed from the detainee and is replaced with full liberty (Cesa de PEN) after six months if the detainee has behaved himself. Since Libertad Vigilada prisoners have free movement within their assigned district, Martin Seravia felt that a Consul would not have to seek permission from the Ministerio de Interior to interview a detainee in Libertad Vigilada status.

Yes, a Libertad Vigilada detainee can apply for option (contrary to what San Roman has previously told me). If a Libertad Vigilada detainee decides to apply for option he would turn his "visa" and option application in to the police station where he signs the register and it would be forwarded to the Ministry of Interior for consideration. Martin Seravia stated that around 90% of such option requests should be approved. When asked if he knew of any such requests being approved by the Commission he stated he was unaware of any approvals of option requests from Libertad Vigilada detainees.

Martin Seravia stated that if a detainee (in prison) receives Libertad Vigilada while he has a pending option request the Commission will contact the prisoner to determine if he still wants to continue the option process before they will consider the detainees option request. The detainee's pending option request will not affect his change of status to Libertad Vigilada.
or nullify

Martin Seravia stated that the Presidential Commission that consider option requests is composed as defined in Article 23, Anexo 2, Article 2 of the Constitution. The Commission does meet approximately once every two weeks and considers about 30 option cases at each meeting. The members of the Commission are given the complete records of each applicant to be considered for option approximately a week before the actual meeting so that each member can study each case in advance.

** Martin Seravia stated that option decisions made by the Commission are by majority vote. ** (I don't believe it)

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